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FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. FILING DATE APPLICATION NO. 6187 10/002,329 11/01/2001 Aaron V. Kaplan KAP 101 DIV EXAMINER 03/23/2006 Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler MENDEZ, MANUEL A **Suite 2850** ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 200 West Adams Street

3763

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO! FILING DATE CONTROL NO.

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /
PATENT IN REEXAMINATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER

**ART UNIT** 

PAPER

03172006

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**Commissioner for Patents** 

Please review the attached document.

Manuel Mendez Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3763 Application/Control Number: 10/002,329 Page 2

Art Unit: 3763

## Response to Amendment

The reply filed on December 28, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

The examiner of record respectfully requests clarification on the use of the phrase "penetrating structure" in the pending claims. The phrase "penetrating structure" is not defined in the specification. Accordingly, the examiner would like applicant's comments concerning the lack of support for this phrase or an indication of where support can be located in the specification. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.

EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manuel Mendez whose telephone number is 703-272-4977. The examiner can normally be reached on 0730-1800 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Nicholas D. Lucchesi can be reached on 571-272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3763

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Manuel Mendez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3763

MM